and circulation of data regarding vehicle theft gangs operating in Delhi with their description and involvement; availability of information on stolen/ recovered vehicles through Delhi Police Web-site; introduction of SMS service by Crime Branch in Delhi to facilitate recovery/linking of stolen vehicles; on-line exchange of information regarding crime including vehicle thefts/car jackers through Zonal Integrated Police Network with border Districts of Haryana, U.P. and Rajasthan.

Protection of witnesses

965. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 37 per cent people fear for severe harassment in going to witness box in courts with the result that the guilty/criminals are not being punished and set free;

(b) whether Government propose to frame any law or rules for protection of witnesses; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Law Commission in its 198th Report on "Witness Identity Protection and Witness Protection Programmes" has recommended measures to provide protection to the witnesses. The contents of this Report are treated as confidential until the Report is laid in Parliament.

Development Board for Konkan region

966. DR. P.C. ALEXANDER: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have considered the unanimous resolution passed by both the Houses of the Maharashtra State Legislature on 20th February, 2005, recommending the establishment of a separate Development Board for the Konkan region of the State; and

(b) if so, whether a favourable decision is expected to be taken by the Central Government before the end of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) Government has received the Resolution passed on 20th February, 2005 by both the Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature recommending the establishment of a separate Development Board for Konkan region of the State.

(b) It is not possible to specify a definite time-frame.

Check on intruders

†967. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is apprehension of a number of terrorists intruders intruding in various States of India; and

(b) if so, whether there is any specific action plan to counter this situation, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government pursues a multi dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities. The Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment of security forces both at the Centre and in the States, undertaking well coordinated intelligence based counter-terrorism operations. As a result of the coordinated action between the Central Intelligence Agencies and the State Police Forces, a large number of terrorist modules of Pak/POK based terrorist outfits have been busted in various parts of the country, during 2006 also.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.